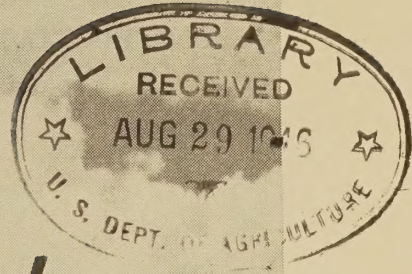


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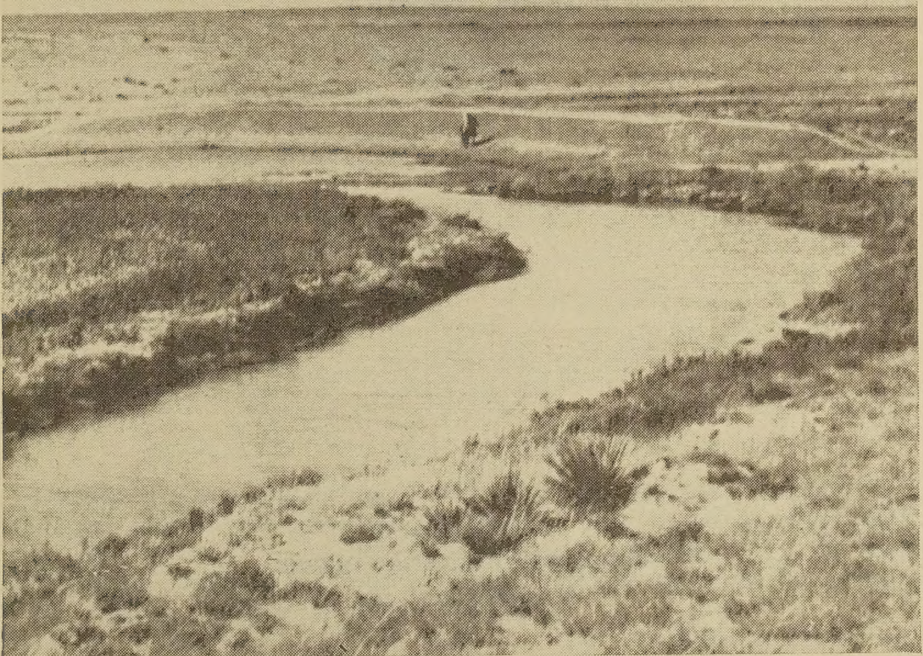
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# *Range Handbook*

*for Texas and Oklahoma*

1941 RANGE CONSERVATION PROGRAM





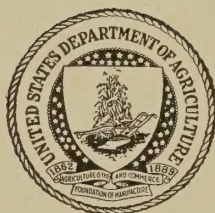
**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION**  
**SOUTHERN DIVISION**



**Program effective from December 1, 1940  
to November 30, 1941**



*Issued February 1941*



**UNITED STATES**  
**GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE**  
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## FOREWORD

The conservation of the grasslands of the country is necessary:

To assure an adequate meat supply to the consumers of the Nation.

To assist the individual ranchmen in conserving the productivity of their ranches.

To aid in the prevention of destructive floods that annually carry fertile topsoil down the streams and destroy valuable public and private property.

Success of the conservation of the range lands and the benefits to be derived by the general public and the ranchmen depend upon the efficient use of the practices which are available through the AAA Range Program.

*Grass.*—Next in importance to the divine profusion of water, light, and air, those three physical facts which render existence possible, may be reckoned the universal beneficence of grass. . . . It yields no fruit in earth or air, and yet should its harvest fail for a single year, famine would depopulate the world.

—JOHN J. INGALLS.

## CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction.....	1
SECTION 1. How to participate.....	2
SECTION 2. Payments to ranch operators.....	2
SECTION 3. Increase in small payments.....	4
SECTION 4. How grazing capacity is determined.....	5
SECTION 5. Practices and conditions of payment.....	6
SECTION 6. General conditions for payment.....	13
SECTION 7. Assignments.....	15
SECTION 8. Deductions for association expenses.....	15
SECTION 9. Appeals.....	16
SECTION 10. Authority.....	16



# RANGE HANDBOOK FOR TEXAS AND OKLAHOMA

## The 1941 AAA Range Conservation Program

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### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the 1941 Range Conservation Program is the conservation of soil on range land. Need for conserving the range in Texas and Oklahoma arises from the fact that the original grazing capacity has been gradually cut down by droughts, overgrazing, rodents, and noxious plants, all of which increase soil erosion. Gradual depletion of grass not only has meant a serious loss of forage to stockmen, but also has left the fertile topsoil of large areas of range land exposed to erosion.

The Range Conservation Program is designed to help ranchmen put into operation the range-building practices which experiment and actual use have shown to be of value in helping maintain or restore a good stand of grass on depleted range land. Grass offers the best protection to range soil. Land covered by a sufficient stand of grass almost always shows constant improvement. Rarely is it severely affected by erosion. Consequently, the Range Conservation Program provides practices which will help maintain or restore a good stand of grass by eliminating competition of range-destroying plants, preventing erosion, and conserving water in the more arid regions.

**Natural reseeding by deferred grazing.**—One of the most important practices is that of natural reseeding. This is accomplished by keeping all livestock off the pasture from the start of the growth of grass in the spring until the seed has matured.

A different portion of the ranch should be selected each year for natural reseeding by deferred grazing, so that the entire ranch eventually may be reseeded. The operator cannot qualify for payment on land that normally would not be grazed during this period, nor will he be eligible for payment if he permits any part of his ranch to be injuriously overgrazed.

Before beginning the practice of deferred grazing, the area on which grazing is to be deferred must be designated in writing by the operator and approved by the county committee. The payment for this practice will be limited to 40 percent of the range-building allowance, unless the State committee has approved additional recommended practices and other conservation measures to be carried out in the county in connection with the deferred grazing practice.

**Development of stock water on range land.**—The better distribution of watering places will lessen erosion brought about through trampling and destruction of grass by stock going long distances to water. Stock traveling long distances to water create trails that



develop into washes and gullies, causing increased damage from erosion and run-off.

**The construction of earthen tanks and reservoirs** is the most desirable method of impounding stock water under this program. Concrete or rubble-masonry dams may be constructed where earthen dams are not practicable. Dam sites should be chosen carefully and ranchmen will confer with the county agent or range inspector and obtain the approval of the county committee before construction is begun. After a dam site is definitely decided upon, ranchmen must be sure that a profile of the proposed dam is made and platted and that benchmarks and reference points are established. The construction of tanks and reservoirs will be approved only for the purpose of providing water for range livestock where such watering places are needed for the control of erosion.

**Development of natural watering places** consists of improvement and development of springs and seeps by excavation. To qualify for payment, the operator must, at his own expense, wall up the spring or seep with concrete or rubble-masonry walls, fence it to protect from trampling, and convey the water into a tank.

**Erosion and run-off control.**—Contour listing, furrowing, chiseling, contour ridging, and the building of spreader dams and terraces are erosion-control practices specified in the program. These practices hold water on the land where it falls, catch grass seed which otherwise would be lost, help prevent erosion, and keep the water out of creeks and gullies.

**Elimination of destructive plants.**—Soil may be conserved through encouraging an increased growth of grass by eliminating range-destroying plants which shade out grass or kill it by root competition.

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### Section 1. HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Ranchmen who wish to participate in the Range Program will first sign the application for determination of grazing capacity, and then reach an agreement with the range inspector or county agent, and secure the approval of the county committee, as to the practices to be carried out on the ranch by filling out the Report of Examination of Range Land. A duly appointed representative of the county committee or State committee will visit participating ranches and approve and locate such practices as will effectuate the purposes of the program, make necessary surveys, and secure records for all proposed practices prior to the beginning of any compliance work. All practices will be carefully checked to see that they are carried out according to required specifications.

### Section 2. PAYMENTS TO RANCH OPERATORS

Since ranch operators who carry out range-building practices on their individual ranches are cooperating in the solution of a national problem, the Range Conservation Program provides that they will receive payments from funds to be made available for this purpose by the Federal Government. These payments and the rates at which



they will be made are contingent upon the appropriation by Congress of necessary funds. The payment rate may be increased or decreased by not to exceed 10 percent depending on the extent of participation in the program.

For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the Range Conservation Program, a ranch or ranching unit includes all range land (except land owned by the United States Government) which is considered to be land that produces forage grazed by range livestock without cultivation or general irrigation, which is controlled by one operator as a separate unit in the production of livestock, and which is operated with machinery, workstock, and labor substantially separate from that used on any other range land. A ranch is regarded as located in the county in which its principal dwelling is situated. A ranch on which there is no dwelling is regarded as located in the county in which the greater portion of the land is situated.

The maximum amount of money that can be earned under the Range Conservation Program for carrying out range-building practices on any ranch is called the range-building allowance. This allowance is calculated at the rate of **90 cents** for each animal unit of the grazing capacity established for the ranch plus **2 cents** for each acre of range land in the ranch. It is provided, however, that the allowance cannot be computed on the basis of a grazing capacity of more than one animal unit for each 10 acres of range land and that the 2-cent rate on the acreage of range land cannot apply to more than 60 acres per animal unit of grazing capacity, and it is also provided that the range-building allowance shall not be less than \$160.00 for ranches containing 2,000 acres of range land or more, nor less than 8 cents per acre of range land for ranches containing less than 2,000 acres.

An animal unit is one cow, one horse, five goats, or five sheep, or the equivalent thereof. The grazing capacity of a ranch is the number of animal units which the range land on the ranch will sustain on a 12-month basis over a period of years without decreasing the stand of grass or other grazing vegetation and without injury to the forage, tree growth, or watershed.

### EXAMPLES

For illustration, assume that a ranch with 16,000 acres of range land has an established grazing capacity of 400 animal units or 40 acres per animal unit. The range-building allowance would be calculated as follows:

16,000 (acres) × 2 cents	\$320. 00
400 (animal units) × 90 cents	360. 00
Range-building allowance	680. 00

In another case, assume that a ranch with 16,000 acres of range land has an established grazing capacity of 200 animal units. This would give the ranch more than the maximum of 60 acres per animal unit on which the payment of 2 cents per acre is allowed; therefore the 2-cent payment would be made on only 60 acres per animal unit

or 12,000 acres (grazing capacity multiplied by 60). The range-building allowance in this case would be calculated as follows:

12,000 (acres) × 2 cents	\$240. 00
200 (animal units) × 90 cents	180. 00
Range-building allowance	420. 00

In the case of a ranch with 1,000 acres of range land, assume that the established grazing capacity is 100 animal units. This would give the ranch the minimum requirement of 10 acres per animal unit for that part of the range-building allowance calculated on the basis of grazing capacity. The range-building allowance would be calculated as follows:

1,000 (acres) × 2 cents	\$20. 00
100 (animal units) × 90 cents	90. 00
Range-building allowance	110. 00

In the case of a ranch with 700 acres of range land, assume that the established grazing capacity is 35 animal units. Under the regular procedure the range-building allowance would be calculated as follows:

700 (acres) × 2 cents	\$14. 00
35 (animal units) × 90 cents	31. 50
	45. 50

However, since the minimum range-building allowance for any ranch is 8 cents per acre times the number of acres in the ranch or 2,000 acres, whichever is smaller, the range-building allowance for this ranch would be

8 cents × 700 acres or	\$56. 00
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Another illustration of this minimum payment would be in the case of a ranch with 3,000 acres and a carrying capacity of 60 animal units. Under the regular procedure the range-building allowance would be computed as follows:

3,000 (acres) × 2 cents	\$60. 00
60 (animal units) × 90 cents	54. 00
	114. 00

The minimum rate of 8 cents times 2,000 acres would give a range-building allowance for this ranch of \$160.00 instead of \$114.00 computed above.

In any case, the range-building allowance or any part of it must be earned by the ranch operator by carrying out approved range-building practices.

### Section 3. INCREASE IN SMALL PAYMENTS

The total payment computed for any person with respect to any ranching unit shall be increased as follows:

- (1) Any payment amounting to 71 cents or less shall be increased to \$1.00;
- (2) Any payment amounting to more than 71 cents but less than \$1.00 shall be increased by 40 percent;



(3) Any payment amounting to \$1.00 or more shall be increased in accordance with the following schedule:

Amount of payment computed	Increase in payment	Amount of payment computed	Increase in payment
\$1.00 to \$1.99	\$0. 40	\$32.00 to \$32.99	\$10. 40
\$2.00 to \$2.99	0. 80	\$33.00 to \$33.99	10. 60
\$3.00 to \$3.99	1. 20	\$34.00 to \$34.99	10. 80
\$4.00 to \$4.99	1. 60	\$35.00 to \$35.99	11. 00
\$5.00 to \$5.99	2. 00	\$36.00 to \$36.99	11. 20
\$6.00 to \$6.99	2. 40	\$37.00 to \$37.99	11. 40
\$7.00 to \$7.99	2. 80	\$38.00 to \$38.99	11. 60
\$8.00 to \$8.99	3. 20	\$39.00 to \$39.99	11. 80
\$9.00 to \$9.99	3. 60	\$40.00 to \$40.99	12. 00
\$10.00 to \$10.99	4. 00	\$41.00 to \$41.99	12. 10
\$11.00 to \$11.99	4. 40	\$42.00 to \$42.99	12. 20
\$12.00 to \$12.99	4. 80	\$43.00 to \$43.99	12. 30
\$13.00 to \$13.99	5. 20	\$44.00 to \$44.99	12. 40
\$14.00 to \$14.99	5. 60	\$45.00 to \$45.99	12. 50
\$15.00 to \$15.99	6. 00	\$46.00 to \$46.99	12. 60
\$16.00 to \$16.99	6. 40	\$47.00 to \$47.99	12. 70
\$17.00 to \$17.99	6. 80	\$48.00 to \$48.99	12. 80
\$18.00 to \$18.99	7. 20	\$49.00 to \$49.99	12. 90
\$19.00 to \$19.99	7. 60	\$50.00 to \$50.99	13. 00
\$20.00 to \$20.99	8. 00	\$51.00 to \$51.99	13. 10
\$21.00 to \$21.99	8. 20	\$52.00 to \$52.99	13. 20
\$22.00 to \$22.99	8. 40	\$53.00 to \$53.99	13. 30
\$23.00 to \$23.99	8. 60	\$54.00 to \$54.99	13. 40
\$24.00 to \$24.99	8. 80	\$55.00 to \$55.99	13. 50
\$25.00 to \$25.99	9. 00	\$56.00 to \$56.99	13. 60
\$26.00 to \$26.99	9. 20	\$57.00 to \$57.99	13. 70
\$27.00 to \$27.99	9. 40	\$58.00 to \$58.99	13. 80
\$28.00 to \$28.99	9. 60	\$59.00 to \$59.99	13. 90
\$29.00 to \$29.99	9. 80	\$60.00 to \$185.99	14. 00
\$30.00 to \$30.99	10. 00	\$186.00 to \$199.99	(1)
\$31.00 to \$31.99	10. 20	\$200.00 and over	(2)

<sup>1</sup> Increase to \$200.00.

<sup>2</sup> No increase.

#### Section 4. HOW GRAZING CAPACITY IS DETERMINED

The grazing capacity of any ranch participating in the program in 1941 for the first time will be determined through a field survey by a county range inspector selected by the county committee, with the approval of the State committee. In establishing the grazing capacity of a ranch the range inspector will take into consideration the composition, palatability, and density of forage growth; variations in weather conditions; distribution and character of watering facilities; topography; presence or absence of rodents and poisonous plants; and the number and classes of livestock previously carried. The grazing capacity of a ranch shall be based on the normal and not on the temporary condition alone, as found at the time of inspection.

On ranches where a grazing capacity was established in 1939 or 1940, detailed examination of the range land as to grazing capacity need not be made in 1941, except where it has been requested by the ranch operator or it is deemed necessary by the county committee,



State committee, or the Agricultural Adjustment Administration that a new determination be made.

The average of the individual grazing capacities for all ranching units in the county shall not exceed the county average grazing capacity limit established by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration based on available statistics and recommendation of the State committee.

#### Section 5. PRACTICES AND CONDITIONS OF PAYMENT

Following is a complete list of practices and the rates of payments. Payment will be made for carrying out these practices, but the total payment made will not be more than the range-building allowance. Additional specifications may be issued by the State committee as indicated, with the approval of the Director of the Southern Division. Payment will be made only for practices carried out in accordance with specifications on range land between December 1, 1940, and November 30, 1941, inclusive. All practices must be approved in advance in writing by the county committee.

Payments for carrying out range-building practices are conditioned upon the adoption or maintenance of conservative range management practices designed to secure or maintain a good stand of grass or other palatable forage plants and in bringing about such use of the forage resources of the ranch as will most effectively carry out the purposes of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act. Payments under the 1941 Range Conservation Program will be made only with respect to those ranching units on which the county committee certifies that such range management practices have been followed. The range-building practices approved by the county committee for any ranching unit shall be practices which the county committee finds are needed on the ranch in order to promote conservation and good range management.

Before deciding on the practices that he wishes to carry out the ranch operator should, with the aid of the range supervisor, county agent, county committeemen, and others, plan a definite and comprehensive system of range management, incorporating therein such range-building practices as will best fit the ranch in question or certain portions of that ranch. As an illustration, there are a great many ranches where the practices ordinarily carried out are the construction of dams, the building of spreader terraces and spreader dams, and the conservation of water through contour furrows and contour ridges. It is probable that on such a ranch a better job would be done if the work was concentrated on one watershed, beginning first on the higher land with contour furrows and ridges, installation of spreader dams and terraces on the more gently sloping areas and the construction of a dam in a location best adapted to water storage and erosion control after the other practices have been inaugurated. In subsequent years, the activities under the range program could be concentrated on another watershed and so on until a complete and well-integrated system of water and soil conservation has been carried out on the entire ranch. In another instance, it might be more desirable to eradicate a heavy infestation of cedar and mesquite.



The eradication of these noxious plants is of prime importance to the ranch operator, but to get the most benefit the rancher would probably find it advisable to follow the eradication of these plants with a system of contour furrows and ridges, the piling of brush along contour lines, and the installation of spreader dams and terraces. Such a plan would require a definite outline and the cooperation of all persons concerned in carrying through to final completion the very best range management practices for the particular area and for the particular ranch in question. Following a definite and comprehensive system of range management will result in a much more worth while range program.

The operator shall assume all responsibility for the acquiring of necessary permits, for the violation of any established water rights, or for other damage to property as a result of construction under the provisions of the 1941 Range Conservation Program.

#### RESEEDING OF RANGE LAND

##### 1. Natural reseeding by deferred grazing and supplemental practices:

(a) **Deferring 25 percent** of the range land in the ranching unit from grazing—**PAYMENT, 40 percent of the range-building allowance.** If grazing is deferred on less than 25 percent, a proportionate payment will be made.

The period for deferred grazing shall be the normal period from the start of forage growth to seed maturity.

The beginning of the 1941 nongrazing period in Texas and Oklahoma counties shall be set on a date between March 1, 1941, and June 1, 1941, by the county committee with the approval of the State committee. Notice of deferred grazing dates approved for the county shall be made available to all ranch operators in the county. The duration of a nongrazing period shall not be less than five consecutive months from the approved date for beginning the practice.

The ranch operator must submit to the county committee in writing the designation of the deferred grazing acreage prior to the initiation of the practice. This practice is not applicable to range land in the ranching unit which normally is not used for grazing.

The area deferred from grazing must be kept free of livestock during the deferred grazing period, and the ranch operator must carry out practices under such conditions or specifications as shall be established by the county committee with the approval of the State committee as are needed in the interest of range conservation.

The range land **not in the deferred grazing area** must not be pastured to such an extent as will decrease the stand of grass or injure the forage, tree growth, or watershed.

(b) **Supplemental practices** required by the county committee—**PAYMENT, 35 percent of the range-building allowance.** If deferred grazing is carried out on less than 25 percent of the range land in the ranching unit, only a proportionate amount may be earned by carrying out these supplemental practices. The payment shall not exceed

the value of such supplemental practices, which values shall be approved by the State committee based on recommendations of the county committee.

To be eligible for this payment, or a portion thereof, the ranch operator must defer a portion of the range land in the ranching unit from grazing and, in addition, must comply with such other practices and specifications not listed for payment in this handbook which have been recommended by the county committee and approved by the State committee, where the county committee determines such additional practices are needed in the interest of range conservation.

**2. Artificial reseeding of depleted range land—PAYMENT, 15 cents per pound of seed sown, but not in excess of \$2.00 per acre:**

Good seed of adapted varieties of range grasses, legumes, or forage shrubs must be used and the range land properly prepared previous to seeding by mowing, contour listing, or by such other methods as are approved by the county committee as being good practices for such land.

Satisfactory documentary evidence must be submitted to the county committee regarding performance under this practice.

**3. Artificial sodding of depleted range land—PAYMENT, \$3.00 per acre:**

The resodding must be done with adapted varieties of range grasses and in a manner to provide a minimum of one sod piece or original clump of grass for each 28 square feet of pasture land sodded. At least 60 percent of the grass sodded must be growing at the time of checking performance.



Heavy equipment being used for contour furrows which automatically builds check dams in each furrow every 12 feet.





Growth of grass and the production of a good seed crop is materially aided by contour furrowing and listing.

#### EROSION AND RUN-OFF CONTROL

##### 4. Contour listing, furrowing, and chiseling:

(a) Furrows with 60 square inches cross section and not less than 5 inches deep constructed with dams at intervals of not to exceed 12 feet—**PAYMENT, 2½ cents per 100 linear feet**, not to exceed \$1.50 per acre.

(b) Furrows with 60 square inches cross section and not less than 5 inches deep without dams—**PAYMENT, 2 cents per 100 linear feet**, not to exceed \$1.50 per acre.

(c) Furrows with a minimum 32 square inches cross section and not less than 4 inches deep, or chiseling not less than 8 inches deep—**PAYMENT, 1½ cents per 100 linear feet**.

Guide lines for this practice must be run at one-half the terrace interval, and all furrows **MUST** be spaced not less than 7 feet apart. However, with the approval of the county committee, in regions of low annual rainfall the surveyed guide lines for contour furrows may be spaced at regular terrace intervals, provided that furrows not surveyed, if dammed, may be plowed parallel to the surveyed guide line if not more than 30 feet from it.

##### 5. Contour ridging of range land—**PAYMENT, 7½ cents per 100 linear feet:**

Ridges or narrow terraces must be at least 3 feet wide from the channel to the top of the ridge, at least 15 inches high above the low point in the channel, and spaced not more than one-third of the

maximum terrace interval. Ridges may be pushed from either the upper or the lower side or from both sides. Ridges must not empty directly into gullies, but must be blocked at the ends or turned uphill before crossing gullies. Guide lines must be run for each ridge.

#### **6. Spreader dams and terraces and channel riprap:**

(a) For constructing spreader dams—**PAYMENT, 15 cents per cubic yard of material moved** not in excess of 2,000 cubic yards and 10 cents per cubic yard of material moved in excess of 2,000 cubic yards for each spreader dam.

(b) For constructing spreader terraces—**PAYMENT, 50 cents per 100 linear feet.**

(c) For installing riprap of rock to prevent erosion along the channel of a stream—**PAYMENT, 50 cents per square yard of exposed surface.**

Spreader dams and spreader terraces may be constructed alone or in combination with each other for the diversion of surface water to prevent erosion of range land. Where spreader terraces are constructed alone, such terraces must be built in accordance with specifications issued by the State committee. Such dams and terraces must be accurately laid off and checked with a standard farm level or surveyor's instrument. Dams, with the exception of spillways, must be constructed in accordance with specifications required under practice 7.

#### **DEVELOPMENT OF STOCK WATER ON RANGE LAND**

**7. Earthen tanks or reservoirs—PAYMENT, 15 cents per cubic yard of material moved** and used in the construction of a dam not in excess of 2,000 cubic yards per dam and 10 cents per cubic yard in excess of 2,000 cubic yards per dam;  $7\frac{1}{2}$  cents per cubic yard for all material moved in the construction of a tank or reservoir when not used in the construction of a dam.

Where it is determined by the county committee that any existing dam does not constitute a suitable watering place for livestock and that the enlargement of such dam will contribute to the effectuation of the purposes of the program, payment will be made at the same rate and under the same specifications as apply to the construction of new earthen dams and reservoirs.

Reservoirs or earthen tanks must be constructed with spillways adequate to prevent dams from washing out. Dams shall be constructed in accordance with approved specifications issued by the State committee. Prior to construction, the site for such dam must be inspected and a preliminary survey made by a representative designated by the county committee. After a dam site is definitely decided on, it is required that a profile be made and platted and benchmarks and reference points be established.

**8. Concrete or rubble-masonry dams or drops—PAYMENT, \$6.00 per cubic yard.**

The construction of concrete or rubble-masonry dams will be approved only on rough or broken range land for providing range live-



stock with water or for erosion control where earthen dams or reservoirs are impracticable and where there is no possibility of using the water stored by such dam for irrigation purposes. Dams must be constructed in accordance with specifications issued by the State committee.

After a dam site is definitely decided on, it is required that a profile be made and platted and benchmarks and reference points be established.

Concrete drops may be constructed in locations where it is impossible to control floodwaters by any other method. Drops will be installed in series in such manner as to reduce soil erosion to a minimum.

### 9. Drilling or digging wells:

(a) Wells with casing not less than 4 inches in diameter—**PAYMENT, \$2.00 per linear foot.**

(b) Wells with casing less than 4 inches but not less than 2 inches in diameter—**PAYMENT, \$1.00 per linear foot.**

Drilling or digging wells will be approved only for the purpose of better distribution of watering places for livestock on range land, thus preventing erosion caused by trampling out of grass by livestock going long distances to water, and by overcrowding at one place. Such wells must be sufficiently cased to prevent caving. The ranchman is required to erect or install at his expense a windmill or power pump, together with adequate pumping equipment and water tanks. Payment will not be made for a well developed at or near ranch headquarters. A dry hole will not qualify for payment. An artesian well will qualify for payment at \$1.00 per linear foot if suitable stock water is made available during the grazing season and adequate watering places are provided.

### 10. Development of natural watering places for range livestock:

(a) Where excavation is in soil or gravel—**PAYMENT, 30 cents per cubic foot.**

(b) Where excavation is in rock—**PAYMENT, 50 cents per cubic foot.**

In developing springs or seeps by excavating, at least sufficient material must be excavated at applicable rates to amount to \$20.00. The minimum payment for the development of one spring or seep shall be \$20.00 and the maximum shall be \$100.00.

The springs or seeps must be walled up with concrete or masonry; the source must be protected from trampling by adequate fencing, and the water conveyed through a trough or a pipe not less than one inch in diameter to a tank of at least 20 cubic feet capacity for the purpose of providing water for range livestock.

### PLANTING FOREST TREES

#### 11. Tree planting.—Trees must be planted prior to November 1, 1941.

For other specifications and rates of payment under this practice refer to the applicable practice in the regular Handbook for the 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program (practice 25, SRB-501-Texas and practice 26, SRB-501-Okla.).

# CONSERVATION OF RANGE LANDS THROUGH THE ELIMINATION OF DESTRUCTIVE PLANTS

## 12. Eliminating prickly pear and cactus:

(a) **Light infestation**, 2 percent to 6 percent, inclusive—**PAYMENT, 50 cents per acre.**

(b) **Medium infestation**, 7 percent to 12 percent, inclusive—**PAYMENT, 75 cents per acre.**

(c) **Heavy infestation**, above 12 percent—**PAYMENT, \$1.00 per acre.**

Payment will be based on the percentage of ground infested. Where infestation is less than 2 percent, coverage will be calculated by counting 2 or more acres as 1, according to the relative facts found by the range inspector and approved by the county committee.

## 13. Eliminating mesquite:

(a) **Light infestation**, 5 percent to 20 percent, inclusive—**PAYMENT, 50 cents per acre.**

(b) **Medium infestation**, 21 percent to 40 percent, inclusive—**PAYMENT, \$1.00 per acre.**

(c) **Heavy infestation**, above 40 percent—**PAYMENT, \$2.00 per acre.**

Payment will be based on the percentage of ground infested. Where infestation is less than 5 percent, coverage will be calculated by counting 2 or more acres as 1, according to the relative facts found by the range inspector and approved by the county committee.

## 14. Eliminating cedar:

(a) **Light infestation**, 5 percent to 15 percent, inclusive—**PAYMENT, 75 cents per acre.**

(b) **Medium infestation**, 16 percent to 30 percent, inclusive—**PAYMENT, \$1.00 per acre.**

(c) **Heavy infestation**, above 30 percent—**PAYMENT, \$1.50 per acre.**

Payment will be based on the percentage of ground infested. Where infestation is less than 5 percent, coverage will be calculated by counting 2 or more acres as 1, according to the relative facts found by the range inspector and approved by the county committee.

## 15. Eliminating lechuguilla—**PAYMENT, 50 cents per acre:**

Payment will be based on the percentage of ground infested. This payment will be made for eliminating infestations above 2 percent. Where infestation is 2 percent or less, coverage will be calculated by counting 2 or more acres as 1, according to the relative facts found by the range inspector and approved by the county committee.

## 16. Eradication of infestation of sagebrush—10 percent or more infestation—**PAYMENT, 50 cents per acre:**

Mowing must be done during the months of June and July, and it is desirable that the area mowed have grazing withheld in accordance with practice 1. If the infested area is sandy, the mowing



should occur on the lower areas of the range and sagebrush left for protection on the higher areas. Payment will be based on the percentage of ground infested. Where infestation is less than 10 percent, coverage will be calculated by counting 2 or more acres as 1, according to the relative facts found by the county committee.

**NOTE.**—The degree of infestation of destructive plants as outlined in practices 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 will be determined by judging the density of the growths and grading them in accordance with the percentage of the ground covered by the total spread of trees or plants, as estimated by the range inspector. In order to make an accurate estimate as to the percentage of coverage of such plants, the range inspector should step off a representative tenth or twentieth of an acre of infested area and measure the ground covered by all the trees and plants under consideration that are on the area. From this he can determine the percentage of coverage on such plot or plots, then use this percentage as a basis for arriving at the percentage of the entire infested area. Also, if the county committee determines that the control of destructive plants under practices 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 will reduce the vegetative cover to such an extent as to cause increased soil erosion, the use of practice 2 or 3, artificial reseedling or sodding, shall also be required where soil and climatic conditions permit.

**17. Destruction of noxious plants by mowing—PAYMENT, 25 cents per acre per mowing:**

Payment will not be made if the plants mowed are used for hay or sold for any purpose, nor for mowing a greater number of times than the county committee, with the approval of the State committee, finds is necessary for destruction of the noxious plants.

**FIREGUARDS**

**18. Establishment of fireguards—PAYMENT, 5 cents per 100 linear feet:**

Fireguards must not be less than 10 feet in width and must be constructed by exposing the soil by plowing furrows or by other mechanical means. All vegetation in the fireguard must be destroyed. Proper arrangements must be made to prevent erosion and gullying, and the fireguard otherwise maintained throughout the year. Payment will not be made if the fireguard is used in connection with controlled burning within the ranching unit.

**Section 6. GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR PAYMENT**

Application for range-building payments may be made only by a ranch operator, who is the person operating a ranching unit as owner or lessee, or a person who acts in a similar capacity in the operation of a ranch. In case there are two or more ranch operators, the application must be signed by all of them. However, if one or more refuse to sign, the county committee will determine the percentage shares of the operators who have signed the application. An owner or lessee who will operate the ranch for a portion of the year must apply for inspection before the closing date for accepting applications in order to qualify under the program by performance after he actually assumes operation.

Payment may be withheld from any ranch operator who fails to file within the prescribed time any form or furnish any information

required concerning any ranch or farm in which he is interested. Payment will be made only upon application submitted through the county office on or before March 31, 1941. No payment will be made for any practice for which one-half or more of the total cost of the labor, seed, trees, or materials used in carrying out the practice is furnished by any State or Federal agency other than the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. If less than one-half of the total cost of the labor, seed, trees, or other materials used in carrying out any practice is furnished by a State or Federal agency, other than the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, one-half of such practice shall qualify for payment.

All or any part of any payment under this program may be withheld, or required to be returned, from any ranch operator (1) who has adopted any practice which tends to defeat the purposes of the 1941 or previous Range Conservation Programs or who in any manner whatsoever offsets, or participates in offsetting, performance for which payment is sought; (2) if, by means of any corporation, partnership, estate, trust, or any other device, or in any manner whatsoever, he has offset, or has participated in offsetting, in whole or in part, the performance for which such payment is otherwise authorized; (3) who adopts any practice on forest or woodland controlled by him which is contrary to sound conservation practices; (4) where adequate inspection of his ranch shows the stand of grass has been decreased or the forage, tree growth, or the watershed has been injured by overgrazing in 1941, consideration being given to rainfall, rate of stocking, and other local conditions; or (5) who changes for 1941 the 1940 leasing arrangements so as to divert to himself payments which would have been made to the lessee under the 1940 conditions of the lease, or who the State committee finds has employed any other scheme or device which would have the effect of depriving any other person of any payment or share of payment to which such other person otherwise would be entitled.

Payments computed for any person for carrying out range-building practices shall be subject to any net deductions which are or could be computed for him under the provisions of the 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program Bulletin, except net deductions resulting from acreages of winter wheat in excess of the wheat acreage allotment or acreages of soil-depleting crops in excess of the total soil-depleting acreage allotment. As provided in Sec. 349 (a) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, no payment will be made for participation in the 1941 Range Conservation Program to any person who knowingly overplants in 1941 the farm cotton acreage allotment determined under Sec. 344 of the Act for any farm in which he has an interest.

The total of all payments made in connection with programs for 1941 under Section 8 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to any individual, partnership, or estate with respect to farms, ranching units, and turpentine places located within a single State, Territory, or possession shall not exceed the sum of \$10,000 prior to deduction for association expenses in the county or counties with respect to which the particular payment is made. The total of all payments made in connection with programs for 1941 under Section 8 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to any



person other than an individual, partnership, or estate with respect to farms, ranching units, and turpentine places in the United States (including Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico) shall not exceed the sum of \$10,000 prior to deduction for association expenses in the county or counties with respect to which the particular payment is made. All or any part of any payment which has been or otherwise would be made to any person under the 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program, including the Range Conservation Program, may be withheld or required to be returned if he has adopted or participated in adopting any scheme or device, including the dissolution, reorganization, or formation of any corporation, partnership, estate, trust, or by any other means, which, was designed to evade, or would have the effect of evading, the provisions of this paragraph.

Any payment or share of payment shall be computed and made without regard to questions of title under State law, without deduction of claims for advances (except as provided in section 7), and without regard to any claim or lien against any crop or livestock, or proceeds thereof, in favor of the owner or any other creditor.

Where the county committee, in accordance with instructions of the State committee, determines that (1) water developments or fences constructed or forest trees planted are not maintained in accordance with good ranch management; (2) seedlings of perennial legumes or grasses are destroyed after ranch operators have been informed that the destruction of such legumes or grasses is contrary to the purposes of the program; or (3) the effectiveness of any range-building practice carried out under a previous program is destroyed in 1941 contrary to good range management, there will be deducted from payments which would otherwise be made with respect to the ranching unit an amount equal to the payment which would be made in 1941 for a similar amount of such practices.

#### Section 7. ASSIGNMENTS

A person may assign his interest in any payment due him under the 1941 Range Conservation Program as security for loan or advances made for financing the carrying-out of range-building practices in 1941. An assignment must be made in writing on Form ACP-69 in accordance with instructions (ACP-70) issued by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and filed in the county office. No assignment will be recognized unless it is entitled to priority as determined under the instructions issued by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. The assignee is not entitled to any payment other than that to which the ranch operator is entitled, nor (as provided in the statute) shall the Secretary or any disbursing agent be subject to any suit or liability if payment is made to the ranch operator without regard to the existence of any such assignment.

#### Section 8. DEDUCTIONS FOR ASSOCIATION EXPENSES

There shall be deducted pro rata from the payments with respect to any ranching unit all or such part as the Secretary may prescribe of the estimated administrative expenses incurred or to be incurred by the county agricultural conservation association in the county in which the ranching unit is located.

### Section 9. APPEALS

Any ranch operator who considers himself aggrieved by any recommendation or determination of the county committee may, within 15 days after notice thereof is given, request the county committee in writing to reconsider the recommendation or determination. Appeals may also be taken from the decisions of the county committee to the State committee and to the Director of the Southern Division in accordance with procedure issued by the Director of the Southern Division.

### Section 10. AUTHORITY

This handbook for Texas and Oklahoma, outlining the Range Conservation Program for 1941, is issued pursuant to the provisions of the 1941 Range Conservation Program Bulletin, as amended, and all payments for range-building practices will be made in 1941 in accordance with the provisions of this handbook and such modifications thereof or other provisions as may hereafter become necessary, except that, in case of a conflict between this handbook and the National Bulletin, the National Bulletin shall govern.

Issued January 15, 1941, with the approval of the Administrator.

I. W. DUGGAN  
*Director, Southern Division.*













